

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 AGR-20 EB-11 RSR-01 /136 W
----- 047211

R 121537 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7636

INFO AMCONSUL RECIFE

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMCONSUL BELEM

AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE

AMCONSUL SALVADOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 2833

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV PDEV PINT EAGR (CIRNE LIMA, LUIS)

SUBJECT: REACTION TO CIRNE LIMA' S RESIGNATION

REF: BRASILIA 2791

1. THE RESIGNATION OF MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE LUIS CIRNE LIMA HAS BECOME PRIMARY TOPIC OF CONVERSATION IN POLITICAL CIRCLES AND ELSEWHERE. IN GENERAL, OPINION SEEMS TO BE THAT CIRNE LIMA' S GESTURE WAS COURAGEOUS, AND PUT GOB AND ESPECIALLY FINANCE MINISTER DELFIM NETO IN BAD LIGHT. HOWEVER, FEW OBSERVERS WILLING TO PREDICT WHAT, IF ANY, CONSEQUENCES THIS DEVELOPMENT MIGHT HAVE FOR MEDICI ADMINISTRATION OR GOVERNMENT' S AGRICULTURAL POLICIES.

2. IN SENATE, SENATOR LUIS CAVALCANTI (ARENA- ALAGOAS) DELIVERED LENGTHY SPEECH EULOGIZING CIRNE LIMA AND LAMENTING HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE AGRICULTURE MINISTRY.
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SENATORS CATETE PINHEIRO (ARENA- PARA) AND JOSE SARNEY (ARENA- MARANHAO) ADDED THEIR SUPPORT TO CAVALCANTI' S FAVORABLE REMARKS. ACTING OPPOSITION FLOOR LEADER, SENATOR ADALBERTO SENA (MDB- ACRE) TOOK THE FLOOR TO READ TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO MANAGING EDITOR OLIVEIROS FERREIRA DENOUNCING ALMOST TOTAL CENSORSHIP OF O ESTADO' S MAY 10 COVERAGE OF CIRNE LIMA RESIGNATION. (FYI: EXCERPTS OF FERREIRA' S MESSAGE AS READ BY SENATOR SENA APPEARED IN MAY 11 ISSUE OF JORNAL DO BRASIL.)

3. IN THE CHAMBER, MDB FLOOR LEADER ALDO FAGUNDES (RGS) LIKEWISE LAMBASTED THE CENSORSHIP OF O ESTADO. MOREOVER, HE STATED THAT CIRNE LIMA' S RESIGNATION WAS A CALL FOR A CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT METHODS AND POLICY, AND STRESSED THE MINISTER' S ACTION WAS APPLAUDED BY THE MDB. ARENA FLOOR LEADER GERALDO FREIRE REPLIED BY STATING THAT IF CENSORSHIP WERE EXERCISED, IT WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC ORDER.
ROUNTREE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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